

Mr. Boon moved, that it be laid on the table.

The question thereon was taken, and decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Boon, chairman of the committee therein mentioned, delivered the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Joseph N. Gordon, clerk of Kent county court, praying authority to retain a certain per centum of the monies collected on account of fees due the estate of the late Thomas Worrell, Esquire, his predecessor in office, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to submit the following report and resolution:

By a law of eighteen hundred and twenty-three, entitled, An act to tax certain offices, it is made the duty of the clerks and registers of the several counties of this state, to attend to the collection of, and to receive, all monies due for the official services of their predecessors who, by virtue of that act may be accountable to the state for surplus fees of office—to keep an accurate account of the same, verified and attested as therein directed, and to make semi-annual returns thereof to the treasurer of the western or eastern shore, as the case may be. The imposition of these very responsible and troublesome duties upon clerks and registers, was evidently intended for the public interest, by facilitating the collection of the tax imposed upon these offices, and by securing the payment of the same when collected. Your committee believe that the petitioner, in the discharge of the above mentioned duties, has been subjected to an unusual degree of trouble and difficulty—in numerous instances accounts in bar against his predecessor have been and will be presented, all the circumstances of which have been, or must be minutely investigated: And whereas, it appears just and right that he should be allowed a reasonable compensation for the same. Therefore,

Resolved, That Joseph N. Gordon, clerk of Kent county court, be, and he is hereby authorised, in his settlement or settlements with the treasurer of the eastern shore, to retain out of the tax imposed upon the clerk's office of Kent county, such sum or sums of money as may be equal to six per cent. on the several sums he has received, or may receive, on account of fees due the estate of the late Thomas Worrell, Esquire, his predecessor in office.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

James Boon, Chairman.

By order,

Benjamin Seegar, Com. Clk.

Which was twice read, by a special order, considered and dissented from.

Mr. Stricker, from the committee to whom was referred the bill from the senate, entitled, An act to incorporate The Maryland Chymical Works, reported, that the committee have had the same under consideration, and are of opinion that it ought to pass without amendment. The said bill was then read the second, and, by a special order, the third time and considered.

When, on motion by Mr. Stricker, the following amendment, as an additional section to come in at the end of the bill, was twice read and adopted, viz.